

THESES

INTRACRANIAL COMPLICATIONS OF OTORHINOLOGICAL INFECTIONS (ABSTRACT)*. **THESIS. ARACAJU, 2005**

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Despite the reduction in the incidence of intracranial complications of otorhinological infections after the coming of the antimicrobial therapy, these stay as extremely serious affections.

The purpose of this report was to analyze retrospectively the intracranial complications of rhinosinusitis and otitis media in patients interned in the neurosurgical unit at Hospital Governador João Alves Filho in Aracaju - SE, between January of 1995 and September of 2004.

Thirty patients were studied, being 57% of the masculine gender and 43% feminine. With regard to the age, there was a prevalence in the first and second decades of life (83,3%). The source of infections was rhino-sinusitis in 70% of the patients and otitis media in 30%. The most common form of complication was a intracranial abscess (53%), followed by subdural empyema (40%) and extradural abscess (7%). The main clinical presentations were headache (86,7%), altered consciousness (80%), fever (76,7%) and vomit (76,7%). About the location of the lesions, 66,7% of the intracranial abscesses of rhinosinoseginc origin were located in the frontal lobe, while 57,1% of those of otologic origin were located in the cerebellum. The subdural empyemas were located in convexity in 58,3% of the cases. One extradural abscess was located in the frontal lobe and another in parietal and occipital lobes.

Surgical treatment was undertaken in 23 patients, while 7 patients were treated without surgery. Seventy percent of the patients survived and 52,4% of these presented sequelae, being the hemiparesia the most fre-

quent (63,6%). It is concluded that the otorhinological intracranial complications are quite serious illness, with high mortality rate and frequent sequelae.

KEY WORDS: otorhinological infections, cerebral abscess, subdural empyema, complication.

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